Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 008118
FOL REPEAT STATE 008118 SENT ACTION SEOUL JAN 13
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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 008118
E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BEXP, KS
SUBJECT: SUNKIST TRADEMARK AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROBLEMS
REF: STATE 236687, OCTOBER 3, 1975
1. DEPARTMENT CONTACTED SUNKIST V. P. QUARLES ON JAN. 8 TO OBTAIN STATUS REPORT ON THEIR PROBLEMS WITH ROK REGARDING PRODUCTION AND MARKETING OF SUNKIST ORANGE JUICE IN KOREA UNDER SUNKIST TRADEMARK. QUARLES CONFIRMED THAT HE HAD VISITED KOREA IN OCTOBER BUT REGRETTED THAT VISIT WAS UNSUCCESSFUL AND THAT NO PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN PERSUADING ROK TO ALOW PROJECT TO GO FORWARD AS ORIGINALLY CONCEIVED. DESPITE ROK'S ORIGINAL APPROVAL IN 1972, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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INFO OCT-01 ARA-01 ISO-00 EA-01 /004 R

DRAFTED BY EB/CSB/BP:STEVEN R. PRUETT:BT APPROVED BY EB/CSB/BP:HARVEY J. WINTER

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ORIGIN EB-01

EA/K:PMAYHEW

R 061815Z FEB 76 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO RECENT GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS PROHIBIT MARKETING OF ORANGE JUICE UNDER SUNKIST TRADEMARK AND ALLOW FOR IMPORT OF ORANGE JUICE CONCENTRATE ONLY IN QUANTITIES WHICH WILL BE BLENDED WITH 50 PERCENT LOCALLY-PRODUCED CONCENTRATE. QUARLES REPORTED THAT THESE REGULATIONS AND LACK OF VIABLE LOCAL CONCENTRATE HAS PRECLUDED BEGINNING OF COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS IN KOREA.

- 2. QUARLES STATED THAT SUNKIST HAD RECENTLY RECEIVED NOTICE THAT ROK WOULD BE WILLING TO CONSIDER A LUMP-SUM PAYMENT TO SUNKIST IN LIEU OF 2 PERCENT ROYALTY FOR USE OF TRADEMARK. QUARLES STATED THIS WOULD MOST LIKELY BE UNACCEPTABLE TO SUNKIST (DEPENDING ON SIZE OF LUMP-SUM PAYMENT) SINCE ROYALTY SCHEME WAS ORIGINALLY EXPECTED ONLY TO RECOUP COST OF TRANSFERRING TECHNOLOGY TO LOCAL PRODUCER, HAI TAI, AND NOT COST OF TECHNOLOGY ITSELF. SUNKIST ANTICIPATED RECOUPING ACTUAL TECHNOLOGY COSTS THROUGH PROFITABLE MARKETING OF JUICE CONCENTRATE AND FRESH ORANGES IN KOREA.
- 3. WHILE SYMPATHETIC TO KOREA'S RECENT BALANCE OF TRADE DIFFICULTIES, QUARLES IS OF THE OPINION THAT REGULATIONS AIMED AT REDUCING KOREA'S TRADE DEFICIT SHOULD NOT BE APPLIED RETROACTIVELY TO THE DETRIMENT OF EARLIER AGREEMENTS MADE IN GOOD FAITH AND AGREED TO (ALBEIT INFORMALLY) BY ROKG. QUARLES WOULD LIKE FOR USG TO INTERCEDE WITH THE ROK AND EXPLAIN BASIC UNFAIRNESS OF APPLYING CURRENT REGULATIONS RETROACTIVELY.
- 4. DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS REGARDING QUARLES' REQUEST. KISSINGBR

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^{***} Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

^{***} Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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